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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

CLARKE et al

Atty. Ref.: 39-206

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Group:

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Examiner:

For: PARTICLES

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April 13, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Claim 4~~, line 1, delete "any preceding" and after "claim" insert -- 1 --.

~~Claim 6~~, line 1, delete "or 5".

~~Claim 7~~, line 1, delete "any preceding" and after "claim" insert -- 1 --.

~~Claim 8~~, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1-6" and insert -- claim 1 --.

~~Claim 9~~, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1-6" and insert -- claim 1 --.

~~Claim 10~~, line 1, delete "any preceding" and after "claim" insert -- 1 --.

~~Claim 11~~, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1-9" and insert -- claim 1 --.

~~Claim 13~~, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1-9" and insert -- claim 1 --.

~~Claim 14~~, line 1, delete "any preceding" and after "claim" insert -- 1 --.

~~Claim 20~~, line 1, delete "or claim 19".

~~Claim 22~~, line 1, delete "any one of claims 18-21" and insert -- claim 18 --.

~~Claim 25~~, line 1, delete "or claim.24".

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